

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

Provides additional means for municipal or volunteer fire departments to be reimbursed for putting out a car fire on a trunk highway or interstate right-of-way. Expands authority of a township (or city) to collect with property taxes the unpaid service charges for extinguishing motor vehicle fires and other emergency services.

#### Section

**1 Reimbursement for fire services.** Requires the commissioner of transportation to reimburse a municipal or volunteer fire department for ordinary expenses incurred in extinguishing a motor vehicle fire within a trunk highway or interstate right-of-way if the fire department is not reimbursed from some other source. Permits reimbursement of up to \$300 per fire call. Provides that reimbursement is from the motor vehicle fire account in the general fund.

Establishes a motor vehicle fire revolving account in the general fund. Directs the commissioner of transportation to deposit in the account reimbursements from persons for costs of extinguishing their motor vehicle fires in trunk highway rights-of-way. Appropriates money in the account to the commissioner for the purpose of paying reimbursements to local fire departments.

**2 Charges for emergency services; collection.** Conforming amendment to section 3.

**3 Collection of unpaid service charges.** Expands the authority of a town to seek reimbursement for emergency services it has provided. Permits a town that has not been

**Section**

paid for a service to collect the unpaid amount as a charge against any real property owned by the recipient, not only on property within the town. Allows the town to certify the amount due to the county auditor of the county in which the recipient owns real property. Provides for the charges to be collected along with the property taxes levied against the property and for the county auditor to remit the amount to the appropriate town.

Limits the amount collected under this section for fire calls to extinguish motor vehicle fires in trunk highway and interstate rights-of-way to \$300 per fire call, but allows a town to recover any additional expenses by other means, such as bringing a lawsuit.

A city may use this same authority after adopting an ordinance authorizing the manner and amount of charging for the specific services. Minn. Stat. § 415.01